CATEGORIES OF WRITING

REFLECTIVE

An analysis and evaluation of personal progress in writing through literacy

The writing...

- Contemplates his/her literacy experience
- Analyzes own strengths and areas of growth in writing
- Allows the content to determine the form and audience
- Analyzes and addresses needs of the intended audience
- Speaks directly to the audience
- Develops the connection between growth as a writer through a literacy strand(s) (reading, writing, listening, observing, speaking) and skills as a writer
- Analyzes the connections
- Supports claims with personal experience about self through insight
- Organizes the connections logically, effectively, using paragraphing, transitions, a variety of sentences, etc.
- Uses grammar and word choice that is appropriate for purpose and audience

PERSONAL/EXPRESSIVE

Narrative-focuses on a significant single event

Memoir-focuses on the significance of a relationship with an individual person, place, animal, or thing

Essay-focuses on a central idea about the writer or the writer's life

The writing...

- Establishes the significance of one event, relationship, or central idea
- Communicates the significance (impact) and/or leaves the reader with a single impression
- Develops ideas by using relevant/specific details from personal experiences
- Shows emotions, thoughts and/or insight through descriptions as appropriate
- Uses dialogue as appropriate
- Uses grammar and word choice that is appropriate for purpose and audience

CATEGORIES OF WRITING

Literary

Communication through authentic literary forms to make meaning of the human condition created from the imagination of the writer

The writing (short story, play)...

- Focuses on some aspect of human experience
- Contains elements that are characteristic of genre: plot (conflict, crisis, resolution), setting, character development, theme, and point of view
- Uses thoughts, actions, descriptions to develop plot, setting, character, and theme.
- Develops the plot through conflict and resolution
- Manages literary techniques and effective organizational strategies to communicate ideas and feelings to reader
- May use dialogue to enhance meaning
- Uses grammar and word choice that is appropriate for purpose and audience

The writing (poetry)...

- Focuses on the purpose (e.g., paints a picture, recreates a feeling, tells a story, captures a moment, evokes an image, shows an extraordinary perception of the ordinary based on human experience)
- May use insight and reflection to show depth of idea development
- Uses sensory details and/or poetic devices to create a mood, scene, and /or image
- Does not sacrifice meaning for rhyme
- Maintains coherence and unity
- Uses white space, line breaks, and/or shape to enhance meaning
- Uses grammar and word choice that is appropriate for purpose and audience

Transactive

Informative/persuasive/analytical writing that presents ideas and information in letters, speeches, editorials, articles, academic papers, other

The writing...

- Is from the perspective of an informed writer to a less informed reader (may even be a new perspective on the topic)
- Contains a specific purpose and makes it clear what the reader should know, do, and/or believe as a result of reading the piece
- Is intended for an authentic audience and strives to meet the needs of the audience
- Employs a suitable tone for purpose and audience
- Presents ideas and information to accomplish the purpose
- Provides specific, relevant support, (facts, examples, reasons, anecdotes, comparisons, quotes, charts, graphs) showing knowledge of the subject
- Reveals ability to think logically for the purpose and explain clearly/persuasively
- Organizes logically, effectively, using paragraphing, transitions, headings, etc. (text features)
- Uses grammar and word choice that is appropriate for purpose and audience
- Documents sources appropriately

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